

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 6105

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAID, LE, UN
SUBJ: LEBANON: UNSYG APPEAL FOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:
GRANT AGREEMENT NUMBER AID/OTR-G-127

REF: A) USUN 5315
B) SCRANTON TO WALDHEIM LETTER OF NOVEMBER 9, 1976
C) KURTZER/SEIFMAN TELCON OF DECEMBER 12, 1976

1. PER TELCON, MISOFF HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT SARKIS HAS
INDICATED TO UN AN INTEREST IN HAVING A UN INTERDICRIPLINARY,
INTER-AGENCY ADVISORY TEAM AVAILABLE TO GOL TO ASSIST IN:

A) ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS OF LEBANON;
B) PREPARATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN;
AND,
C) INITIAL GROUND WORK ON LONG-RANGE DEVELOPMENT
STUDIES.

FURTHER, PENDING ESTABLISHMENT OF A RECONSTRUCTION AND
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, SRAKIS HAS DELEGATED TO MINISTER
TUENI RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES.

2. WITH REGRAD TO UN PERSONNEL IN LEBANON, (EXCLUDING
LEBANESE STAFF, WHO FOR THE MOST PART HAVE BEEN PRESENT
THROUGHOUT) WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT IN ADDITION TO
AL-ATTAR, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF ECWA, SCHELLER (SWISS)
FORMER DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF UNDP IN ETHIOPIA, HAS
BEEN DESIGNATED OFFICER IN CHARGE OF OPERATIONS IN
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LEBANON, AND HE ARRIVED IN BERIUT ON DECEMBER 5,

1976. ADDITIONALLY, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PFOFESSIONALS,
WHO ARE EITHER NOW, OR WILL BE IN LEBANON FOR VARYING PERIODS
OF TEIM:

AMNDERSON, EMERGENCY OPERATIONS (UNICEF);
BRANNATT, LOGISTICS OFFICER (UNHCR);
SOLH AND NASSIF (UNHCR);
BERGEN AND AN ILO TEAM OF 5;
2 WHO SANITARY ENGINEERS ON SECONDMENT TO ICRC;
AND FAO PERSONNEL.

3. WITH REGARD TO UTILIZATION OF THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION,
UNHCR HAS UTILIZED ITS SHARE FOR PURCHASE AND SHIPMENT OF
APPROXIMATELY 50,000 BLANKETS, (\$250,000) AND \$150,000
FOR IMMEDIATE PROVISION OF BUILDING MATERIAL, ESPECIALLY
TARPAULIN SHEETING. THE LIST OF ITEMS
PROCURED BY WHO FOR MEDICAL AND HEALTH RELIEF MATERIAL
IS BEING FORWARDED TO BUFFUM'S OFFICE. (UNICEF PROCUREMENT
WILL BE DETAILED SEPTTEL.)

4. MISOFF HAS FURTHER BEEN ADVISED OF THE FOLLOWING
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNSYG'S APPEAL:

A) NORWAY: 1 MILLION KRONE (\$200,000)
B) NETHERLANDS: 2.5 MILLION GULDERS (APPROXIMATELY
\$1 MILLION). THE NETHERLANDS IS ALSO GIVING THE
EQUIVALENT OF \$1 MILLION TO THE FAO DIRECTOR GENERAL,
WHO IS INSTRUCTED TO CAREFULLY COORDINATE HIS ACTIVITIES
WITH BUFFUM.
C) MISOFF HAS ALSO LEARNED FROM UKUN THAT UK IS ACTIVELY
CONSIDERING MAKING A CONTRIBUTION TO SYG'S APPEAL.
D. ARAB LEAGUE IS IN THE PROCESS OF PREPARING A NOTE TO
ITS MEMBER STATES, SUGGESTING SUPPORT OF THE UN SYG'S
TRUST FUND FOR ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON.

5. INITIAL \$1 MILLION U.S. CONTRIBUTION WAS ALLOCATED
BY THE UN COORDINATOR AMONG THE UN EXECUTING AGENCIES
(\$400,000 FOR UNICEF, \$400,000 FOR UNHCR AND \$200,000
FOR WHO), FOLLOWING THE NOVEMBER 23RD GENEVA MEETING
AND JUDGMENT BY COORDINATOR IN CONSULTATION WITH THE RELATED
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UN AGENCIES AS TO HOW BEST TO UTILIZE FUNDS.
EACH OF THE DESIGNATED AGENCIES HAS AN EXCELLENT RECORD
OF PERFORMANCE IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS AND HAVE
FUNCTIONED TOGETHER EFFECTIVELY IN SIMILAR
CIRCUMSTANCES. GOODS AND SERVICES AS INDICATED ABOVE ARE
OR IN THE PROCESS OF, OR HAVE BEEN PROCURED.

6. COMMENT: AS DECEMBER 1ST "FIRST PROGRESS REPORT

OF THE UNITED NATIONS COORDINATOR OF INTERNATIONAL
RELIEF FOR LEBANON" SUGGESTS, AND BUFFUM'S OFFICE
CONFIRMS, ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS IDENTIFIED IN PARAGRAPH 4,
ABOVE WILL BE RAPIDLY UTILIZED AND FALL FAR SHORT OF
EMERGENCY NEEDS. AS THE DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL, U.S.
LETTER OF COMMITMENT (REF B) EXPRESSED THE U.S. HOPE
THAT OTHER DONORS WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE FUND, AND
FURTHER, THAT THE U.S. DONATION OF \$1.0 MILLION WAS ONLY
AN INITIAL RESPONSE TO THE SYG'S APPEAL. GIVEN THE AFORESAID,
WE BELIEVE IT APPROPRIATE FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO CONSIDER
THE POSSIBILITY OF AN ADDITIONAL U.S. CONTRIBUTION.
SCRANTON

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